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TEACHERS' GUIDE.

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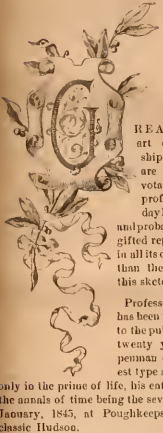
VOL. XII.—No. 1.

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Representative Penmen of America.

FIELDING SCHOFIELD.

BY O. M. JEWELL.



REAT is the art of penmanship, and many are its worthy votaries. The profession to-day has no truer, and probably no more gifted representative in all its departments than the subject of this sketch.

Professor Schofield has been well known to the public for over twenty years as a penman of the highest type and is now in the prime of life, his entrance upon the annals of time being the seventeenth of January, 1845, at Poughkeepsie, on the classic Hudson.

None of the influences which accrue from wealth and distinction attended his birth, but rather the stern realities of life met him almost at the outset. Bereft of a father's care before he learned to know him, he was left to aid in the struggle of supporting a widowed mother and infant sister, which part he did most nobly even at the early age of twelve.

Meanwhile his ruling passion for "the blue of beauty" began to show itself very strongly. Scraps of paper or paste-board would be found traced and retouched with lines of rare grace and forms of artistic beauty, and even upon the rough board fence would be seen portrayed crude pictures of his handiwork.

Another and blow soon came to him in the loss of his most estimable mother. Blest however with sterling qualities of heart and head, he bravely rose above all contending sorrows and at once bent all his energies toward bettering his condition and acquiring an education. To this end he toiled early and late, and proved himself to be of that metal which makes success inevitable. The following instances, still familiar to many, may be cited as thoroughly characteristic of the boy. He would rise at 2:30 A. M., complete a newspaper route of several miles, take the "Steamer "Powell" at 6:30 for Newburg, sixteen miles down the river, sell papers in that city, cross the river and return home by rail in time for school at nine o'clock. This round of duty or a similar one he repeated day after day, summer and winter; and it was perseverance in just such strenuous labors that enabled him to defray all needful expenses, to attend the public school and eventually to enter Eastman College.

Professor Schofield began his life-work as a teacher at the early age of seventeen,

evinced at that time the rare talent of ability to give as well as to receive, and developing since into the earnest teacher he is. In method he is original, making it a point to draw out the student and in training him

Coleman's College, of Newark, N. J., also teaching in connection there with private pupils in New York City. In 1882 we find him for a short time at the Youngstown Business College in Ohio. From thence



Yours sincerely,
Fielding Schofield,
Quincy, Ill.

careful to reserve an individuality of style. In discipline he holds the "law of love" to be more powerful than that of force.

After teaching and acting as correspondent at the college from which he graduated, he was elected to take charge of the penmanship department of a college under the same management at Chicago, which at that time was the largest school of the kind in America. Subsequently he made an engagement with the Bryant & Stratton Business University of that city. In 1887, by reason of climatic influences, he changed his field of labor, choosing from numerous offers that of Warner's Polytechnic College, of Providence, R. I. He remained there two years, during which time he also taught private classes in Boston.

In 1877 he accepted a call from Clark's Model Business Training School, now

he was called to his present position as Principal of the Normal Penmanship Department of the Gem City College, which position he has filled with honor during the past five years, sending forth many of the best young penmen this country has yet produced.

Professor Schofield is an intense and rapid worker. Aside from his regular and faithfully-performed duties as teacher, he has from time to time executed a vast amount of the finest artistic pen work, samples of which have been held by some of the highest dignitaries of the world, including the Pope of Rome, Queen Victoria and the Emperor of Brazil. At present he is engaged upon the "Penman's New Paradise," which is expected to be one of the finest works of the kind ever published. His power of originality in designing is exceptional and his ability to execute of hand work simply wonderful.

Among his numerous competitors none have received more medals, awards of merit and unsolicited commendations from

the press than he; but what is more telling than all is the fact that many of the most recovered penmen and able instructors have been his pupils.

In person Professor Schofield is attractive, having the physique, handsome bearing, features well cut and striking, and countenance lighted by an inward pleasing grace. By nature he is retiring and unsassuming, liberal minded, playful in spirit, of strong personal magnetism, and yielding to none in love for his art or for his home. Those who know him best admire him most.

Pierced Copybooks Defended.

BY H. W. ELLSWORTH.

Prof. Peirce is nothing if not brilliant! He believes in "letting his light shine" and "bawling to the hounds let the chips fall where they may." He has probably written more good things and less weak things about penmanship than any contributor to *The Penman*, and is entitled to the credit. In his last article, "The Science of Teaching Penmanship," he has scored a hit, and if he had said nothing other than "A book teacher is no teacher," he might always be remembered with gratitude and admiration for it. But his grouping of effect and cause shows him a mistake in his estimate. As will might be charged the church with the responsibility for failure to eradicate crime as to blame the copybook for the third penmanship of the community while admitting its inherent virtues and approximate perfection.

Because copybooks are not able to produce good writers of themselves it does not necessarily follow that they are either useless or pernicious or responsible for what is the nature of things cannot be expected from them. A copy in a book is merely a text embodying form and principle which are to be interpreted and illustrated to the pupil by the duly qualified teacher through precept and example until mastered. What to write can be put in a book. How to write or the manner of writing, must be shown by the living example or acquired by laborious experience. Authors may prescribe the *What* but teachers must describe the *How*. The teacher may dispense with the author, but the author cannot dispense with the teacher and command success.

Successful authors must be good teachers. Successful teachers or penmen are not qualified thereby for authorship. The *What* issue is with the teacher. Now, there are teachers and teachers, and while "a book teacher is no teacher," it is also true that a mere ink slinger is no teacher. And yet ink slingers form the majority of those locked upon as professors of penmanship. And they modestly (sic) submit to the flattering insinuation without protest.

But how many of them know more of *pedagogy* than as a hard word to spell and write? And while enthusiasm, check and assumption, backed by a spread eagle, a oblique pen-holder, flowery ink and a horse scare may carry one through to a successful result, a dozen make themselves ridiculous and merit the lurking contempt of the student, and who shun us all for our transparent shallowness, conceit and ignorance of ordinary scholarship which often crops out in the orthography of our climatology.

Psychology, in my opinion, is the weak point of the profession, and accounts for the current view as to penmanship so generally entertained among teachers of penmanship regarding their co-workers, the general tone of the correspondence. And in all the articles published in penman's papers it is surprising that some have recognized the existence of the law of effect and its manifestation as the true basis of intelligent progress.

In view of the vast millions now taught in our schools, public and private, as compared with the handful who pass under professional penmanship teachers, and the average of the copybooks in the hands of fifty or even twenty-five years ago, it must be admitted that the copybook is the saving name in copybook. And the fact that it is something better appears to be the best attainable standard for the work.

Recollections of an Expert.

Celebrated Cases in which Romance and Crime is Strangely Intermingled.

BY D. T. AMES.

To the outside world it may be a matter of astonishment to know of the methods resorted to by villains to establish fictitious claims to property of deceased persons, and the frequency and persistency with which they are applied.

During the past three years, probably not less than one hundred instances of such fraudulent claims have come under the observation of the writer, the opportunity is presented, from the death of a person, for the party who alone all others, would be able to denounce and defeat such claims. The chief difficulty in the way of such frauds is the establishment of some plausible consideration, which is most frequently attempted in the form of promissory notes as they are *prima facie* evidence of an obligation. Besides, there are book accounts, forged wills, deeds, mortgages, claims of pretended heirs, etc. Many of these cases present circumstances which would furnish plots for the most extravagant romance. To set forth a few instances of such claims, is the purpose of this article.

The Celebrated Lewis Will Case.

The celebrated Lewis will case, which was tried in Hoboken, N. J., some years since, in which an old colored man, supposed by all who knew him to be a huckster, died, devising by will nearly \$2,000,000 to the United States Government, to be applied to the reduction of the National debt. Not long after his death a woman appeared claiming a dower in the estate as his widow, presenting an alleged marriage certificate, and various other evidences going to show that she was the lawful wife of Lewis. A most searching investigation and long litigation followed in which it was shown clearly by expert testimony that the alleged marriage certificate was a forgery. Other evidence was introduced to show that the claims of the pretended widow were an utter myth, and finally after a long trial the will was probated and the widow's claim declared fraudulent.

It finally appeared that the pretended widow was only a tool in the hands of a band of experienced and professional forgers and criminals, who had conceived the plot and were the principals in maintaining the contest against the Government. The conspiracy embraced, we believe, nine persons, all of whom were finally tried and convicted of conspiracy and sent for terms of years to State's prison, the pretended widow at the end turning State's evidence, and so escaping punishment.

Old Russell's Money.

Another and more recent case was that of Miser Russell, who was for many years a printer in New York, and at the time of his death left about \$30,000 deposited in various savings banks. He was known among his friends as a huckster and he had frequently said he had no relatives living, and as far as his friends and acquaintances knew this was the fact; but immediately upon his death, a lawyer appeared representing a woman residing in Michigan, who had claim to Russell's estate on the ground of being his daughter. To sustain this claim she produced letters which she alleged she had received from him at intervals during several years and one just previous to his death, which were addressed to her as "My Dear Daughter."

These letters were submitted to the writer for comparison with the genuine writing of Mr. Russell, to ascertain whether or not he had written them. They were pronounced and proven to be forgeries, thus disproving the claim, and the \$30,000 went into the public treasury, as is the case of estates left by persons who are without heirs.

Miser Paine and his Millions.

Another case which the readers of the JOURNAL will remember as having been previously mentioned in these columns, is that of miser Paine, who died leaving money and property variously estimated at from

\$500,000 to \$1,000,000. His life had exhibited the worst phase of a miserly existence. He scarcely allowed himself the most meagre necessities for existence, poorly clad, and actually begging his food in low restaurants, where he scrambled for the very leavings upon the tables. So filthy was he in his habits as to be actually loathsome, causing him to be frequently ejected from public places. Immediately after his death a man came forward, first with a power of attorney, purporting to be signed by Paine, by which he was authorized to conduct all business relating to Paine's affairs, and also made claim that it had been executed by Paine willing all his property to him.

The power of attorney on being submitted to experts was demonstrated to be fraudulent, in that it was first given for a specific purpose, and afterward so changed by the party holding it as to be converted into a general and full power to transact all business for Paine, and all acts were to be readily as if transacted by Paine himself. The will which he claimed to have been executed, could not be found, but the pretend copy of it was presented which was also proven to be a fraud, and the money left by the miser was finally divided among his numerous though distant relatives.

Sued for Libel—Convicted of Forgery.

Several cases which have lately been published in THE JOURNAL we will refer to but briefly, among them the famous case at Plymouth, N. H., where a note and check aggregating \$7,000 were presented to the widow of the deceased president of the Mutual, Concord and Boston R R Co., immediately after his death. The widow declined to pay on the ground of her inability that no such claim existed. The claimant when accused of forgery brought suit for libel against the widow, claiming damages to the amount of \$3,000. The note and check were demonstrated by the writer to be forged, and the party presenting them had held under bail for criminal prosecution, but died to prove unknown before the time came for his trial.

The Newport Conspiracy.

Another instance was at Newport, Vt., where immediately after the decease of a party there was presented to the executors of his estate a paper purporting to be a written renewal by the deceased just prior to his death of outlanded notes and accounts to the amount of several thousand dollars, sufficient if allowed to absorb the entire estate. This paper was submitted to

woman, both continuing to be servants of the testator until his death, and to each of whom he will \$1,000, besides \$500 to each of their several children. It would seem that the entire family had become sort of pets with the old gentleman. Time passed on and some two years after the decease of the testator, the husband called upon the executors and presented a note for quite a sum of money, alleging as his reason for its possession, that just previous to the testator's death, he and his wife being present, the old gentleman handed him a sealed envelope saying, "John, take good care of this and do not open it until after I am dead, when it may be of great service to you." He took the envelope home, and placed it in his bureau drawer, with other valuable papers, where it laid until the fact of its possession passed out of his mind.

A few months previous to the discovery of the notes he said his house had been entered and robbed by burglars, and that shortly after the robbery he found lying in his front room, near the window, several valuable papers, among which was the note he held, also a letter purporting to have been written by the burglars, which said "These papers are of no value to us; we therefore return them, as they may be of

Section of Forged Deed.

*This Indenture made this thirtieth
2 day of July in the year of our Lord one
3 thousand eight hundred and fifty seven,
4 Between Helena Depeuy and Dinah
5 Depeuy both of the Town of Rochester in
6 the County of Wster and State of New
7 York, of the first part and Cornelius
8 Depeuy of the same place of the second
9 part,
10 Witnesseth, That the said parties of the
11 first part in consideration of the sum*

A Wall Street Instance.

Another instance was that of a millionaire banker upon Wall street, who died leaving property to the value of several millions of dollars. Shortly after his death a woman presented a written document in the form of a contract, reciting the genuine marriage in the hands of the deceased some years before his death for investment and safe keeping. The contract being to the effect that the principal and interest were guaranteed with such other profits as might accrue from the use of the money. At the time of this presentation the wife had interest aggregated nearly \$40,000.

The contract which was in itself a note and receipt for the money, purporting to have been written by a lawyer, and several letters purporting to have been written by various disinterested parties furnishing facts and circumstances tending to establish the claim, together with the genuine handwriting of the claimant, was placed in the hands of the writer for examination and comparison, in that it was discovered that the writing which purported to have been written by five different persons was all in the disguised handwriting of the claimant, including the alleged contract and receipt for the money. These writings manifested a high order of manual skill, and much shrewdness in their various disguises. It was revealed by evidence taken at the trial that the author of this scheme had formerly been a professional teacher of writing, and lately a writer of novels, and certainly placing the entire science to all of its phases it would furnish a plot which would out-romance romance.

the writer, who pronounced the signature of the testator a forgery, and on trial so demonstrated the fact as to secure a verdict from the jury of forgery. At this time the parties in this transaction are under indictment, two for forgery as principals and four for perjury as witnesses to sustain a conspiracy, and all have a lively chance for doing the State a long term of service at honest labor.

A Clever Scheme that Was Worked Once

left often.

Some three years since the writer was called to a small town in the Western part of New York State, to examine several notes which had been presented to the executors of a large estate, under circumstances that had awakened suspicion as to their genuineness. Upon a careful examination and comparison of the handwriting in the body and signatures of the notes with that of the testator, it was very apparent that the notes in question were forgeries. The circumstances attending the discovery and presentation of the notes were indeed romantic. It seems that the testator who had been a far more prosperous man left an estate valued at about \$300,000. The number of his wife and nephews and nieces, among whom after leaving several legacies, the estate by the will was to be divided equally.

For many years there had been employed as housekeeper by the testator a bright young woman who had frequently been called upon by him to do writing and was frequently at his request to sign papers for him. There was also a hired man upon the farm who finally married the young

use to him, signed "The Burglar." The papers had, as he supposed, been shoved into the room by raising the window from the outside. If they occurred to him that this note was a part of the contents of the envelope which had been presented to him by the testator. These circumstances appearing so plausible the note was at once allowed and paid by the executor.

A few days afterward the man called with another note which he said his children had found under the edge of the house near the window, through which the returned papers had been put. He supposed that he had accidentally found the note in the darkness dropped from the hand of the burglar to the ground instead of going through the window as was intended, and that the wind had blown it under the edge of the house, where it had lain until found. That story also appearing plausible, and the note appearing to be the genuine handwriting of the testator, it was allowed by the executor. Shortly after this he presented a note for a much larger sum, which he said the children had found under the edge of the horse barn. This, he said, he supposed had dropped accidentally and the wind had blown it to the place where it was found. The money being for a larger sum caused the executor to hesitate and take counsel before its payment. It was at this time that the notes which had been paid, together with the one which had been presented, were submitted to the writer. The payment of the third note led to the general discovery of the scheme, its collection, when the demonstration of forgery to court and jury was so complete that a verdict of forgery was almost in-

stantly rendered, not only as to the note in suit, but those which had been paid. The parties therefore not only failed in their claim upon the third note but also were compelled to return the money which had already been paid on the previous ones. These notes with the interest aggregated about \$13,000.

An Entire Deed Forged Entirely.

But perhaps one of the most daring conspiracies that has come under the observation of the writer was that of a forged deed lately contested in Ulster County, this State. Illustrations of the writing of which forged papers appear in connection herewith. The facts as developed in the trial of the suit were that upward of thirty years ago, a homestead valued at some \$10,000, was left by the father to six family which at the date of this deed consisted of four maiden daughters, who had resided and continued to reside upon the farm until their death.

The first sister died leaving her interest in the estate to the remaining three; the second sister at her death left a will bequeathing to her only nephew her third interest in an outlying piece of land, while her entire interest in the homestead was willed to her two surviving sisters. On the death of the second sister, she willed her third interest in the land to her only nephew, while her entire interest in the homestead was willed to her two surviving sisters. On the death of the third sister, she also willed her interest in the outlying piece of land to the nephew, while the homestead was willed to a grand niece and her husband.

While a short time after the decease of the last sister, an old man living in the neighborhood called upon the widow and children of the nephew, who was the nearest of kin to the sisters, and informed them that he had found among his old papers a deed, entrusted to him years ago, in 1857, for safe-keeping, by which two thirds of the interest in the homestead had been conveyed to their husband and father. The said nephew, and that the deed would be surrendered to them if they would deed to him a half interest in the property conveyed, otherwise he would destroy the deed or turn it over to the husband of the grand niece, to whom the homestead had been willed. According to his demand the widow and children executed deed conveying a half interest in the property to him.

When it was sought to place this deed on record at the Register's Office, also the new one, transferring the half interest, it became known to the parties to whom the property had been willed, and they at once took measures to prevent the recording of the deeds on the ground that the old deed was a forgery. This was done by securing an injunction from the court forbidding their record, and at the same time suit was brought to nullify the old deed as an alleged forgery. At the trial the most strenuous efforts were made to prove the genuineness of the deed. It was alleged that the body of the deed had been written by a man who in 1857 was Justice of the Peace, and that as such he attested to its genuineness, and the deed was also witnessed by the old man who pretended to have been the owner, and who upon the witness-stand swore that he was present and saw the deed written, and signed it as a witness at the time it purported to bear date. There was also what purported to be the signature of one of the maiden sisters, while the other was signed by a cross, as was alleged in the deed on the account of her having at the time a disabled hand.

Many witnesses were put upon the stand who had been familiar with the handwriting of the alleged Justice of the Peace, who testified that the body of the deed was in his handwriting and the signatures genuine. Upon the other hand it was sought to demonstrate by expert testimony that the body of the will was not in the handwriting of

the alleged Justice, and that all of the signatures were forgeries with the exception of that of the witness D.D. Bell, who was party to the transaction and co-discover of the deed.

It was shown by comparing his signature with those which he wrote in 1857, and that which he had written in 1884, at about the time the deed was produced, that the signature upon the deed compared perfectly with the latter signature, and was widely different from that which he had written in 1857.

ing from another deed proven to have been written by the Justice in 1857. We also show the two alleged signatures of the Justice, Snyder, which appeared upon the deed, together with several of his genuine signatures.

The testimony of the writer, who was called as an expert was that the writing upon the alleged deed was upon its face spurious, that certain forms of the letters were repeated over and over with no accuracy

Comparing the writing in a section of the forged deed, which we present, with a corresponding section of the genuine deed, written within a few days of the alleged date of the forged deed, it will be observed that certain letters are made with a great uniformity, as for instance the word "of," which appears in line two twice, in line five twice, in line six twice, in line eight twice, in lines ten and eleven once. It will be perceived that one is almost an exact duplicate of the others, while in the genuine

Genuine Deed by Snyder.

This Indenture made this twenty eighth day of September in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and fifty seven, Between Asaph O. Whitaker and Emma his wife, and Samuel Robinson and Elizabeth his wife, of the Town of Wadsworth, in the County of Ulster and State of New York, of the first part, and Joshua K. B. Dumond and John C. Decker the present Trustees of School district No. 1, partly in the Town of Wadsworth and partly in the Town of Rochester, and to their successors in office, of the same place, of the second part, Well to lett,

Forged Sig. of Snyder.

A.1
J. J. Snyder

Bell's Sig. to Deed.

D. D. Bell

Bell's Sig. in 1854.

A.2
J. J. Snyder

Daniel D. Bell
Daniel D. Bell

Genuine Sig. of Snyder.

J. J. Snyder

Bell's Sig. in 1857.

D. D. Bell

Genuine Sig.

Helena De Puy

Forged Sig.

J. J. Snyder

Helena De Puy
Dinah De Puy

at the time of the alleged making of the deed, showing that while his signature upon the alleged deed was genuine, it was written thirty years after the deed purported by its date to have been executed.

As to the genuineness of the writing in the body of the instrument we leave our readers to judge for themselves. We have reproduced a section of the writing in the body of the deed, also a section of the writ-

ing which indicated great care and thought in their execution quite otherwise than would have been the case if written thoughtlessly and naturally according to habit: that the writing was very stiff and formal, and at the best would be but a lifeless copy as compared with the genuine writing of the Justice. While, from comparison, it became still more apparent that the deed was a forged simulation of the writing.

deed it will be seen that the corresponding word which appears in line two twice, in line five once, in line six three times, in line eight once, in line nine and eleven once, varies considerably in its manner of construction. Furthermore it will be observed that the peculiar form of the "of" as it appears in the forged deed, namely that of the fluid stroke of the f striking up over the o, ending with a sweep to its left, is a very poor imitation of that form as it appears in the genuine deed in line nine and eleven, where the turn is below the o, and is a short formal turn to the left of the staff of the f. It would seem that the forger, having observed this as a frequent form in the genuine writing, had made the mistake of using it invariably in the forged simulation.

The word "of" appears in the entire forged deed 138 times, every one being made in the same manner, so that while it is a poor simulation of the genuine, it falls to present the variations as they appear in the habitual and natural writing of Mr. Snyder.

Take the small p in the forged writing. It invariably begins with a right curve, and is finished with an "s"-like form at the center. This form is repeated over and over with a high degree of exactness throughout the forged deed, so that there is really but one form of the small p in the entire instrument, yet in the genuine writing it will be observed that there is one kind of a p in line three, another quite different in line seven, another still different in line eight, two differing from these others and from each other in line nine, and so in line eleven. This letter also fails in the forged deed to present the variations which appear in the genuine writing.

Take the small f at the beginning of a word, a good example of which appears to the forged instrument as the first letter to word "fifty," line three, also in the word "first," line seven, and the same word, line eleven, it will be seen that each of these begin with a right curve, while observing corresponding letter in word "fifty," line three, of the genuine writing, and in line seven, in the word "first," it will be seen that the f begins with an initial stroke angling a left curve instead of the right. It would seem that the forger, observing that the f began with a curve, unwittingly curved his the wrong way. Take the capital T, that appears in the first word of line one, also lines five and ten of the forged in-

strument, it will be seen that it is very like a capital Y, the top of the first part is nearly horizontal with the second at the top, while in the genuine it is "T," beginning line one; also in line five and in line eight, it will be seen there that the initials are quite different in form, the first part rises high above the second so that it lacks the horizontal relation as in the forged instrument. Take the letter "t" at the beginning of a word as it appears three times in line one, and line five and elsewhere in the forged instrument, it will be seen that the initial stroke is invariably a right curve, while in the genuine instrument it is very frequently omitted, and when present is a left curve, as an example of which see lines five and six. The capital B will be observed in line four of the forged instrument and the capital H, also the I, each having the same and a very peculiar initial stroke, all just alike, this uniformity is carried throughout the entire forgery capital B, H and I are all beginning in the same way, but observing the corresponding letters in the genuine writing it will be seen that they are widely different and variable in this respect.

The small m's and n's perhaps present the most marked contradictions in their real characteristics as between the two writings. It will be observed that in the forged instrument, connecting lines trace back only slightly, forming a sharp and open angle at the top and bottom, while in the genuine it will be observed that the up lines trace back almost to the top of the down stroke and have round turns at the top, making the letters of an entirely different character. The top of the forged piece gives away in the forged instrument is the V to the word withness in line ten; it is a modern Spenserian letter, one which was not in use in the year 1857. It is probable that the forger of the deed was a young writer, and that he had before him as a copy a printed deed, only a small portion being in writing, in which that word was printed, and not having the regular form of Synder's V before him he unwittingly made his own, which the reader will see is widely different from any that are in the genuine instrument.

This comparison we might extend to great length, but time and space both forbid. We now invite attention to the signatures. One of the first twigs of Synder appear, one to the forged deed, the other to the acknowledged; below these are given four genuine signatures of Synder. It will be observed that the first fatal error of the forger was in the second J where the connecting stroke from the preceding letter passes over the staff so as to form a horizontal and ovals round it, while in the genuine signatures the loop of the J is to the left of the staff and forms a nearly perpendicular oval. The next great mistake is in the construction of the "er," which in the genuine signature of Synder is so constructed as to look as if it was an "or," while the forged is very distinctly "er." The chief failure, however, is in the flourish which sweeps around the signature; in the forgery, its width is more than twice that of the genuine, while the lines are of a character that indicates that they were slowly drawn, while in the genuine the sweep is such as to form an oval more than twice as long as it is wide, while the sweep is free, the lines smooth and the shade is low down toward the bottom, while in the other it is high and shows the turn of the oval. Also the final dash or sweep of the flourish under the signature is entirely different in the method of its construction in the forgery than it is in the genuine.

Many more instances might be mentioned, but we leave them for our readers to discover. We next consider the signature of D. D. Bell, who was one of the witnesses to the forged instrument, also the party who professed to have discovered it, and who was evidently the chief instigator in the forgery. The first is that to the deed which as he alleges he wrote in 1857, when the deed purports to have been executed, directly under which are two others proven to have been written in 1884, while the fourth is his genuine signature written by him in 1857. The point to be determined now is whether his signature upon the deed is more or less closely related to those written in 1884, or that written in 1857.

We also give the genuine signature of

Helen DePuy, and her forged signature to the deed, which will be seen to have very little relationship between the letters or their combination, while the D and u in DePuy and the u in Helena are the same as in the body of the instrument, indicating that they were written by the same person who forged the body of the deed. The other name, that of Dima DePuy, being signed by her mark, there can be no comparison, except that it is evident that the party who wrote the body of the instrument wrote her name. It was not our purpose to give anything like the full detail of facts set forth in our testimony at the trial in demonstration of the forgery, we leave those for the readers of *THIS JOURNAL* to discover.

An Imperial Author.

Napoleon's Manuscript History of His Native Island.

A unique manuscript has been sold at the Rue Droton, in Paris, for 5,500 francs. It is an autograph by the First Napoleon of a history of Corsica, which he wrote at Ajaccio in 1790. This MS. is in eight closely-written pages, and there is much in it which shows that the future emperor was then a disciple of Robespierre. He speaks with the fervor of an enthusiast of the social contract in referring to the action of the Jacobins in Corsica.

He writes in an involved style and in the orthography of an uneducated person: "The Jacobins saw that the broken fragment of a feudal system combined with laws instituted by prejudices without unity would not make a compact whole, but found only, on the contrary, an ill-combined patchwork, just good to perpetuate anarchy. They understood that palliatives were out of date, and that it was necessary to play double or quits to run all risks and to employ the strongest means." They began by preaching the grand principle of the community of goods of equality, the sovereignty of the people and of the illegality of every authority that does emanate from a popular vote. Well, in a few days they changed the whole face of things in the island.

"If they had had time to strengthen their power in spite of the priests what a spectacle they would have made to Europe in a government founded on reason at the gates of Rome! A government of men of the Rue de Provence, a free government amid aristocracy, feudality and tyranny? How in the world would corrupt nations, stultified and brutalized under the sceptres of kings and bishops, have been able to resist collision with hostility, rounded from the tip of the pen. The young historian in many cases made his meaning more apparent by interlineation. His obscurity and awkwardness are not caused by a want, but a congestion of ideas.

He often craves, often changes, often corrects, but his manuscript is the most index of his mind in 1790. He dwells on the degradation of the governed classes all over Europe, and insists on French armies, possessed with the genius of liberty and rejoicing at their new-born freedom, being bound to beat them and overthrow the thrones.

How Bad the Bad Writing Is.

A great deal of bad writing is so bad that nothing can be done with it but let it alone. It does not rise to the height of being false or immoral. It is a mere man of words. No criticism of it is possible. It is only drenched off the page and the word dried in the sun. The author cannot be healed or helped. The trouble is organic. One might indeed say to him: "Go back; go to school; learn the alphabet; be born again; die in a hospital; be cured; be less false!" But that does no good. He likes to live as well as the rest. He likes the mush. It does not seem to him mush.

Dep't of Phonography.

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The Study of Phonography.

Phrases of the Second Class.

FINAL HOOKS.

166. *Of* and *have* are added by the *f* hook to both straight and curved stems, though it is used on curved stems in only a few cases.

Part of *...* could have *...*
may have *...* we have *...*

167. *As*, *and*, *own*, *born* and *than* are added by the *n* hook to straight and curved stems.

In an *...* he and *...* our own *...*
have been *...* other than *...*

168. *There*, *their*, *they* are and *other* are added to straight stems by the *tr* hook.

Are there *...* by their *...*
each other *...* which they are *...*

169. *Of* the *...* and *have* the *...* are added to straight stems by the *s* hook and *halving*.

Part of the *...* out of the *...*
could have the *...* what have the *...*

170. *Of* their *...* have their *...* and *after* are added to straight stems by the *f* hook and *lengthening*.

Part of their *...* day after *...*
could have their *...*

171. *Not* is added by the *n* hook and *halving*.

Did not *...* should not *...* will not *...*

172. *Another* is added by the *n* hook and *lengthening*.

By another *...* for another *...*
in another *...*

IN CURL.

173. *In* before *some* is represented by the *in* curl.

In some measure *...*

174. A small hook within a *ter* hook represents *than*, *been*, or *own*.

Rather than *...* better than *...*

175. A small hook within a *e* hook represents *been*.

May have been *...* shall have been *...*

Lesson XXIX.

or *...* Have *...* An *...*
And *...* Own *...*
Been *...* Than *...*
There *...* Their *...*
They are *...* Other *...*
Of the *...*

Have *...* Of their *...*
Have their *...* there *...*
Another *...*
In some *...*
Been *...* than *...* own *...*
Have been *...*

CHILDREN'S BOOKS.

Had you gone there *...* could you remain there *...* which other *...* In all other cases *...* much of the *...* they have their *...* day after *...* work after *...* Saturday afternoon *...* they did not *...* may not have been *...* you are not *...* should another *...* in another way *...* for another purpose *...* that have been *...* at all their own *...* they may have been *...* that there may have been *...* part of the *...* on the part of their *...* out of the *...* state of the *...* in some other respects *...* take care of their *...* any more than their *...* ask other *...* of your own *...* the other side of the case *...* had you anything to *...*

Contractions, brief signs and words out of position, except *an*, *are*, *as*, *but*, *do*, *for*, *has*, *have*, *his*, *is*, *of*, *our*, *that*, *the*, *them*, *us*, *with*, *when*, *what*, are italicized; consonants represented by up-strokes are italicized; words to be joined in phrases are enclosed in parentheses. Only such phrases are indicated as have already been explained.

(Every man) ought to (cross) the ocean (at least) once (for the sake of finding) how many fires (have been) told about it. Men (may have been) (in the habit) of telling the

truth (on the land, but an ocean breeze (make them) capable of the biggest stories. They see billows (as high as ten) Alps, and whales (as long as) a church. (We have been) (able to) find some things (that have been) reported (but not) all. (We have heard) that sea-knives makes one desire to jump *overboard. (One day) (on our) ship among a hundred seasick passengers we saw (not one) looking (at the) sea (as though he)

(variety of) mission. Since getting (on board) some of them have lost (all their) money. (Two or three) have won every thing and (the others) have lost. The sailors (have been) a constant [entertainment]. (They are) always interesting. (Each of them) has a history. Sometimes his life (has been) a tragedy, sometimes a comedy. (In his) laugh (is the) freedom of the sea and the wildness of the wind. We can hardly keep from laying

years, and still to indication of a new edition. By way of consolation to those who want it and cannot get it one of the authors writes: "The truth is that the employment of it increases the time necessary to take a full course, but it is an undoubted benefit to pupils who are struggling to learn without a teacher. Many of the most rapid Munson photographers were qualified before the 'Phrase Book' was projected."

Mayor Hewitt says the recording angel writes shorthand.

Elizabeth Stuart Phelps is suffering from an affection of the eyes, which compels her to have all her correspondence and literary work conducted by an amanuensis.

A Word on Handwriting.

"Writes badly, does he? Oh, that doesn't matter; I've frequently found that boys who could write well were little good at anything else."

So spoke the headmaster of a large public school when discussing the penmanship of a favorite pupil, who was a prodigy in the matter of Latin verse and Greek roots, but whose writing would have been unworthy of a small boy in a preparatory school. What with letters of all shapes and sizes, some sloping to the right, some tumbling over one another to the left—his exercises looked very much as though a spider had contrived to fall into the ink pot and then crawled over a sheet of paper until he had got rid of the ink that covered his body and legs. And with the head master's dictum to encourage him in his carelessness, it is no wonder that matters did not improve as the boy passed from school to college, from college to professional life. He had been taught to consider bad writing a sign of genius, and the result was, he wrote plenty of clever letters and essays which no one but himself could decipher.

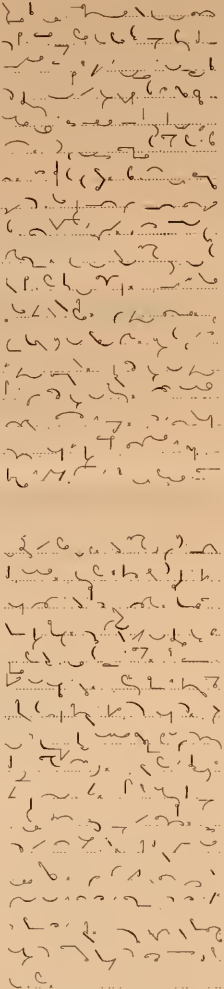
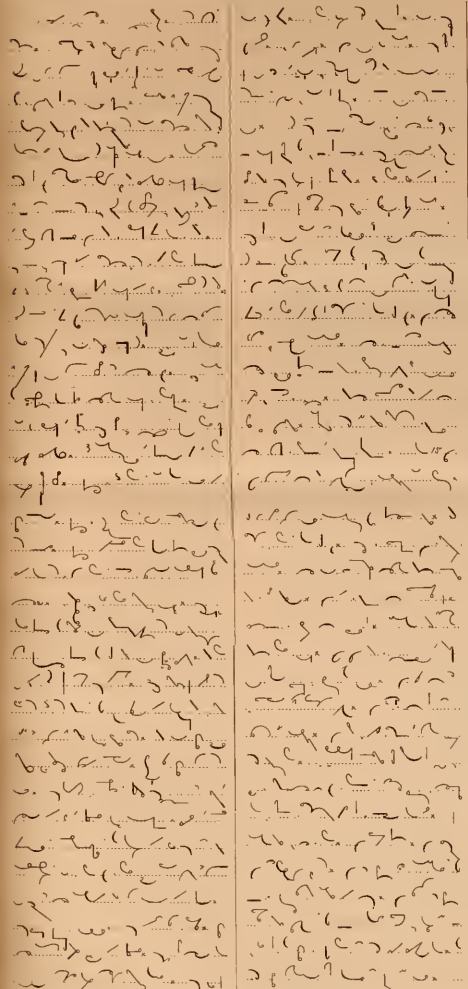
And is not this typical of hundreds and thousands of cases at the present day? Partly because haphazardness in penmanship is so commonly and industriously set in bygone times, partly because of the heading speed which characterizes most of our daily transactions, whether in private or public life, there seems to be some fear lest penmanship may become almost as much a lost art as letter writing.—*Cassell's Magazine.*

Type Manufacturers.

The Methods Employed in the Foundries of the Present Day.

Gutenberg, Koster (if he ever lived), and most of the early printers, made their own type, and this, indeed, is the germ and key of the whole industry. The making of the type is now a calling by itself—the trade of type-founder—but it is most curious that up to the invention of the type-casting machine in 1838, by an American, David Bruce, Jr., of New York, there had been scarcely any improvements in the process since the early days. Then, as now, in all probability, the type-founder cut first his "counter-punch" of hard steel, which stamps into the end of a tiny bit of soft steel the interior part of the letter to be made. It is a patient man who must do this work, which is completed by cutting away all the superfluous metal outside the letter, leaving in relief the letter A, of the desired new pattern or new size. When a smoke proof of his die shows the punch-cutter that his A is perfect, he hammers the bit of steel, and with successive blows of this die upon a bit of copper makes the matrix for the new number of type. If it is a very large letter, the metal is poured into a mold, with these matrices at the bottom, by hand, in the old-fashioned way, and the letter falls apart; but most types are now cast in the little casting machines, which will turn out 100 or more type a minute. The type metal has been used in great smelting rooms, where the lead, antimony, and tin have been mixed in the crucibles in the proportion to form the alloy, which must be "hard, yet not brittle; ductile, yet tough; flow freely, yet hardening quickly. It is kept fluid in a little furnace under a casting machine, whence, as the caster turns a crank, it is spurted by a pump in just the right quantity to fill a mold which presents itself at the spout at just the right moment to receive it. The copper matrix forms the end of the mold, and as the latter jumps back with its quick coiled spring, the metal, the matrix presses free from the mold, the upper half of the mold pops off, and the piece of type is ejected. The caster then turns the tiny bit goes to the breakers, boys who break off the waste "jet" of metal, rubbers, which rub the type clean of the matrix, and at a large circular stone, run down the rough edges; girls set up the types in long rows into a "dressing block," in which they are held while the dresser with a planing tool grooves their undersides and shaves their sides perfectly true. After passing the inspection of his magnifying glass, the good letter goes to a haven of rest, to wait the printer's orders, while the bad ones are again cast. —*James R. R. Bookser in Harper's Magazine.*

Advanced Reading Lesson.—Swallowing a Fly.



(would) like to get (into it). (We have been) told (that) the sails of ships whiten every sea; (but we have) found (that) the cry of "Ship—ho!" (is so) rare (that it) brings (all the) passengers (to their) feet. (We have been) told (of the) signs of death when (out of) (sight of) land, (but we think) in a popular steamer such a feeling is impossible. (We leave) a world behind; (but we) take a world (with us). Our desire to know how far (we are) from the shore is (no greater than) to know how far the shore is (from us). Men (by the) third day on shipboard turn inside out. I refer (to their) characters not (to their) stomachs. Their generosity (or their) selfishness, their courage (or their) cowardice are patent. What

hold with these sailor boys (as they bend (to their) work (singing their) strange song (of which we) catch (here and there) a stanza. *Houses* (give them) a steady foot while running (up the) slippery railines to reef the topsail!

- * All words beginning with *over* are written in first position without regard to accent.
- * is omitted.
- † Leave must be vocalized.
- ‡ First *n* omitted.

Phonographic Notes.

We receive a great many letters asking where the "Munson Phrase Book" can be procured. It has been out of print fully two

This is true. It is also true that with the exception of about a hundred phrases which should be called phrase contractions, the book contains only such phrases as are formed according to the rules of phrasing given in the text book. A list of these is rather a hindrance than an aid, as the learner is apt to fancy that they are to be memorized, when, if he understands the principles of phrasing he knows already how to form, with a few exceptions, all the phrases on the list.

A stenographer once said to Senator Evarts, "Mr. Evarts, your long sentences terrify me." His quick retort was, "Only criminals are afraid of long sentences."

The Editor's Leisure Hour.



VERY rarely has a writing utensil been put upon the market which has come so quickly and securely into popular favor as Ames' Best Pen. Even when a writer asks what a superior article this pen is, the number of the commendations received, and particularly the character of the commendations, it is a matter of wonder.

Ames' Best Pen has come to stay. In our long line of experiments before this successful product was evolved, our instructions to the makers was to make a good pen—the best pen that can be made. The price was a matter of secondary importance, because we knew that the purchasing public could tell a good thing when they saw it.

Peerless—Luxurious—Ames' Best Pen.

A Time-Piece the Size of a Pen.

There is a watch in a Swiss museum only three-sixteenths of an inch in diameter, and set in the top of a pencil-case. Its little dial not only indicates hours, minutes and seconds but also days of the month. It is a relic of the time when watches were inserted in snuff-boxes, shirt-studs and finger-rings. Some were fantastic—oval, octagonal, unicorniform, or in the shape of pearls, tulips, etc.

The strength of a snail.

It has been found by experiment that a snail weighing $\frac{1}{4}$ ounce can draw up perpendicularly a weight of $2\frac{1}{2}$ ounces. An experiment was made with a larger snail weighing $\frac{1}{2}$ ounce, and it placed as to draw the load in a horizontal position. Reels of cotton to the number of twelve were fastened to it, with a pair of scissors, a screw driver, a key, and a knife, weighing altogether seventeen ounces, or fifty times the weight of the snail. The same snail when placed on the ceiling was able to hold up the weight of four ounces suspended from its shell.

Book-Making in Ye Olden Time.

Whenever a royal book-lover, in the day of manuscript books, gave an order to have such or such a classic copied by the most skilled book-maker in the kingdom and ornamented by the most eminent miniature painters of the day, it was customary to make these miniatures faithful portraits of the court beauties and favorites, the queen naturally at the head. This lent an additional charm to the book. In the owner's hands, who could, or he turned over the pages, gaze upon fond familiar faces painted with exquisite art and framed in burnished gold.

Decorative Suggestions.

An essential element of interior decoration is appropriateness, which implies its charm both to classic details and fanciful creations. The Renaissance style has given great encouragement to elegant and luxurious interior decoration. Charming pictorial designs are now brought out in friezes, especially in paper ouzel and lacinated walls, the surfaces showing metallic hues or other colors. The pattern is often simply self-colored, thus leaving the effect to light and shade. Contiguous designs of stems, flowers or fruits, or successive pictorial panels, each with its distinct tableau, are thus presented to enliven the subject.

Coloring of Birds and Insects.

Dr. Wallace, the eminent English evolutionist, states that, in the distribution of color among birds and insects, those most liable to be attacked are less showy and attractive. Among birds, when the coloring of the male and female differs, that of the latter is always duller, and is more likely to be attacked when on the nest or caring for her young. But when the nests are in retired spots, or in hollow trees, the plumage of both is equally bright. Brilliantly-colored insects are rarely fit for food, and edible species will actually imitate the inedible, for the reason that birds refuse to touch insects closely resembling those they have found unpalatable.

The Razor-back Hog.

Evolution: They are great travelers, and always go in a trot. Their quadruped locomotion is in some way connected with an lateral grating arrangement. This capability for locomotion, and their innate selfishness, scientifically explain their existence in West Virginia and their ancestry. There is no authority for even supposing that all the swine historically described as going down into the sea or lake. St. Basil, Vatican and Alexandria MSS. say "choked," so I stake my scientific reputation upon the assertion that the Razor-back Hogs of West Virginia are descended from the survivors of those owned by the A. D. 1 pork-masters, for the reason that they have more devil in them than can possibly be compressed into modern pork, have cloven feet, a long tail, and never miss an opportunity to upset a bucket, eat a week's washing, or squeal when the baby is asleep.—*Tob. Hedge, in the American Magazine for December.*

starting point by several of the spectators was for the four miles and return, nearly nineteen minutes, not very fast for ostriches, so they said, but too rapid for English hatters, I know.—*Notes of an African Traveler.*

Murderous Military.

A lady told me the other day a painful little incident relating to wearing birds on your bonnets and hats. I will try to give her own words. She said:

"One day our pastor said (during service) that when he was in Florence a lady came to him and said: 'Do come with me and hear those birds sing, oh! such mournful notes!' There was a room full of birds in very small cages, and these birds were all blind; they had their eyes put out. In the night the owners take them outside the city and hang the cages in trees. The trees are then all smeared with tar. These birds keep up their pitiful singing, and other birds are attracted to the cages and are stuck on the tar, and then they are caught and their eyes put out. And these birds

Have Stones Like?

We generally think of minerals as dead lumps of inactive matter. But they may be said to be alive, creatures of vital pulsations, and separated into individuals as distinct as the pines in a forest or the tigers in a jungle. The disposition of crystals are as diverse as those of animals. They march with the currents of rivers. They grow in size as long as they have opportunity. They can be killed, too, though not as easily as an oak or a dog. A strong electric shock discharged through a crystal will decompose it, very rapidly if it is of soft structure, causing the particles to gradually disintegrate. In the reverse order of its growth, until the poor thing lies a dead shapeless ruin.

It is true the crystal's life is unlike that of higher creatures. But the difference between vegetable and animal life is no greater than that between mineral and vegetable life. Linnaeus, the great Swedish naturalist, defined the kingdoms of nature by saying: "Stems grow, plants grow and feed; animals grow and feed and move."—*E. D. Walker, in Christmas Wide Awake.*

Strangers on the Throne.

It is a curious fact that there is hardly a reigning monarch in Europe whose family is of the same nationality as the people governed. The house of Austria is really the house of Lorraine, and even in their origin the Habsburgs were Swiss. And the Emperor Francis Joseph is not, strictly speaking, an Austrian, still less is he a Hungarian, although he is king of Hungary. The king of the Belgians is a Saxe-Coburg; the king of Denmark a Holsteiner; the infant monarch of Spain is a Bourbon; the king of Italy a Savoyard; the king of Romania and Prince Ferdinand of Bulgaria are both foreigners; the founder of the Bernadotte dynasty of Sweden was born at Paris less than a century and a quarter ago; the Czar is a Holstein-Gottorp, and the king of the Hellenes is likewise a Holsteiner. Even in the British royal family there is very little English blood left. The Hohenzollerns were originally Silesians, and therefore partly Bavarian and partly Swiss. Neither was the historic house of Orange, in which patriotism has nearly always been the first instinct. Dutch to begin with.

How to Find Out a Person's Age.

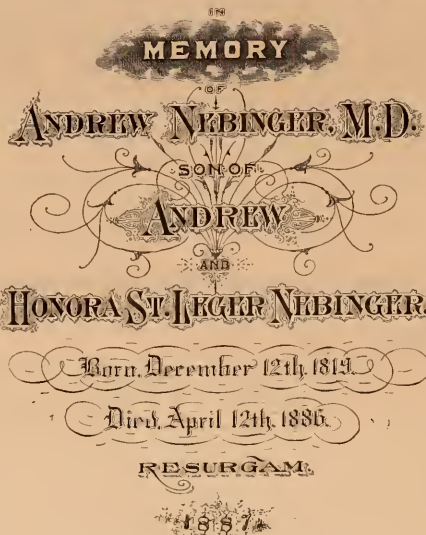
The following figures may be made a source of considerable amusement and wonder, in this manner: Have the person whose age is to be found state in what columns the figures representing his age appear.

The figures at the top of the columns thus indicated added together will represent the number of years the person is old.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100

Cocoas and Chocolate.

The cocoa or cacao tree is an evergreen, said to resemble a young cherry tree. The flowers grow in clusters, the pods are not unlike cucumbers in form, and of a yellowish-red color; they contain from twenty to thirty reduced to a paste, when various spices are added. It is put into moulds, and improves by keeping.



Example of Artistic Pen-Work—Page of Engraved Album Photo-Engraved from Pen and Ink Copy Executed in the Office of the Journal.

Ostrich Racing in South Africa.

We were treated to an exhibition which was a novelty worth traveling miles to see—an ostrich race. Two little carts, the frames of which were made of bamboo and the wheels similar to those of a velocipede, weighing, all the gear included, thirty-seven pounds, were brought forth and four very large ostriches trained to the business and harnessed abreast were attached to each one. The race-course was a flat piece of country about four miles and a quarter in length: the distance to be traveled was four miles straight away and return. Two of the smallest specimens of African bushmen ever seen, less than four feet in height and weighing about seventy-two pounds apiece, Bojesmans, pure and simple, were selected as charioteers, and all was ready. I had been provided with a magnificent sixteen hands high English hunter, having a record placing him among the very best saddle horses of Cape Town, and was quarter way toward the turn of the course, pushing my fresh steed to do his best, when the feathered bipeds started, and before I reached the turn the ostrich chariots had passed me, going and returning like a flash of lightning. I did see them, and yet so quickly did they vanish into the distance that a pen picture, valuable for its accuracy, cannot be given. The time taken at the

are killed and sent to America for ladies to wear on their bonnets.

"And I looked around the congregation to see what ladies had birds on their bonnets, and I was glad there was none on mine, and I don't think I can ever wear a bird again."—*Wide Awake.*

Ancient Cities.

Nineveh was 15 miles long, 8 wide, and 40 miles round, with a wall 100 feet high, and thick enough for three chariots abreast. Babylon was 50 miles within the walls, which were 87 feet thick, and 350 high, with 100 brazen gates. The Temple of Diana, at Ephesus, was 420 feet to the support of the roof. It was 100 miles in building. The largest of the pyramids is 461 feet high, and 633 on the sides; its base covers 11 acres. The stones are about 30 feet in length, and the layers are 380. It employed 28,000 men in building. The labyrinth, in Egypt, contains 300 chambers and 250 halls. Thebes, in Egypt, presents ruins 27 miles round. Athens was 25 miles round, and contained 250,000 citizens and 400,000 slaves. The Temple of Delphos was so rich in donations that it was plundered of \$200,000 and Nero carried away from it 200 statues. The walls of Rome were 13 miles round.

Cuvier.

Cuvier, one of the greatest naturalists that ever lived, first had his interest in natural history roused by the action of a hawk. These little birds had built a nest just outside of his window. One day a strange bird took possession of the nest. The swallow and his mate chattered together for some time and then flew away. Protruders reappeared with a long train of swallows, each bearing some mail in its claws. They flew close to the nest, and as they passed the strange bird, threw the mud they carried directly into his face, thus killing and burying the intruder in the place of his crime—the nest he had stolen. From this time Cuvier devoted himself to the study of the habits of birds, insects, quadrupeds and other animals.

Kaiser Wilhelm's Ninety Years.

German papers call to mind that Kaiser Wilhelm in his ninety years has survived no fewer than seventy-two reigning sovereigns who were his contemporaries, viz.: Fifty-two Kings or Queens, eight Emperors, six Sultans, and six Popes. Of these were Kings of Prussia, Frederick William II., Frederick William III., Frederick William IV.; two were Kings of Hanover, two Kings of Wurtemberg, two Kings of Bavaria, three Kings of Saxony, one King of Westphalia (Jerome Bonaparte), one King of Greece, one King of the Belgians, three Kings of Holland, three Kings of England, three Kings of France, five Kings of Sweden, four Kings of Denmark, three (or four) Sovereigns of Portugal, five Sovereigns of Spain, five Kings of Sardinia, six Kings of Naples, two Emperors of Austria (one of whom was the last of the former line of German Emperors), two Emperors of Russia, four Cæars of Russia. He has also survived twenty-one Presidents of the United States.

The First Razor.

The earliest reference to shaving is found in Genesis xii., 14, where we read that Joseph, on being summoned before the King, shaved himself. There are several directions as to shaving in Leviticus, and the practice is alluded to in many other parts of Scripture. Egypt is the only country mentioned in the Bible where shaving was practiced. In all other countries such as ac would have been ignominious. Herodotus mentions that the Egyptians allowed their beards to grow when in mourning. So particular were they as to shaving at other times that to have neglected it was a subject of reproach and ridicule, and whenever they intended to convey the idea of a man of low condition and slovenly habits the artists represented him with a beard. Unlike the Romans of a later age, the Egyptians did not consider the privilege of shaving to free citizens, but obliged their slaves to shave both beard and hair. The priests also shaved the head. Shaving the head became customary among the Romans about 300 B. C. According to Ptolemy, Silvio Africanus was the first Roman who shaved daily. In France the custom of shaving arose when Louis XIII. came to the throne young and beardless. The Anglo Saxons were their beards until, at the conquest, they were compelled to follow the example of the Normans who shaved. From the time of Edward III. to Charles I. beards were universally worn. In Charles II.'s reign the mustache and whiskers were worn, and soon after this the practice of shaving became general throughout Europe. The revival of the custom of wearing the beard dates from the time of the Crimes, 1834-35.

The First English Country Newspaper.

In 1695 appeared the first country newspaper as the *Lincoln, Rutland and Stamford Mercury*. The printer was one of those early country papers, the *Salisbury Thomas*, "or packet of intelligence from France, Spain, Portugal," etc. Sept. 27, 1716, ran thus: "This paper contains abstracts of the most material occurrences of the whole week, foreign and domestic, and will be continued every post, and enclosed a sufficient number will subscribe for its encouragement. If 200 subscribe it shall be delivered to any public or private house in

town every Monday, Thursday or Saturday morning by eight o'clock in winter and by six in summer for 15d. each. Besides the news, we perform all other matters belonging to our art and mystery, whether in Latin, Greek, Hebrew, algebra, mathematics, etc." By 1782 the number of provincial papers had increased to fifty. A vivid description of the state of the roads in this country in winter time two centuries ago is given in the following extract from the "Collections for Husbandry and Trade," March 10, 1693: "The roads are filled with snow, we are forced to ride with the packet over hedges and ditches. This day seven-night my boy with the packet and two gentlemen were seven hours riding from Dunstable to Hockley, but three miles, barely escaping with their lives, being often in holes and forced to be drawn out with ropes. A man and woman were fondled dead within a mile hence, and six horses lie dead on the road between Hockley and Brickhill, smothered."

and thus making a sudden break without an gradation of color between it and the ceiling, excepting, of course, in cases where the ceiling is very low: then the treatment must be made without either wainscoting or frieze. When a plain color is desired as a background for pictures, the very clearest and cleanest paper of color makes the most artistic and serviceable finish; the yellow, gray, brown and yellow-brown common wrapping paper—the coarsest the better—makes a very effective and cheap covering for a wall. This paper can be bought by the roll.

Drainage of the Human System.

It is estimated that there are about twenty-eight miles of drainage—enough in length for the sewerage of a large town—in the system of sweat-tubes in the skin of an adult. Obstructing the outlets of this system clogs the whole and sends the drainage back into the heart of the city—a speedily fatal effect. The average amount of perspiration given

The "Horse-Power" of the Sun.

From human history we know that for several thousand years the sun has been giving heat and light to the earth as at present; possibly with some considerable fluctuations, and possibly with some very small progressive variation. The records of agriculture, and the natural history of plants and animals within the time of human history, afford us with evidence that there has been no exceedingly great change in the intensity of the sun's heat and light within the last three thousand years; but for all that there may have been variations of quite as much as five or ten per cent., as we may judge from considering that the intensity of the solar radiation to the earth is six and a half per cent. greater in January than in July; and neither at the equator nor in the northern or southern hemispheres has this difference been discovered by experience or general observation of any kind. But as for the mere age of the sun, irrespective of the question of uniformity, we have proof of something vastly more than three thousand years in geological history, with its irrefragable evidence of continuity of life on the earth in time past for tens of thousands, and probably for millions of years.

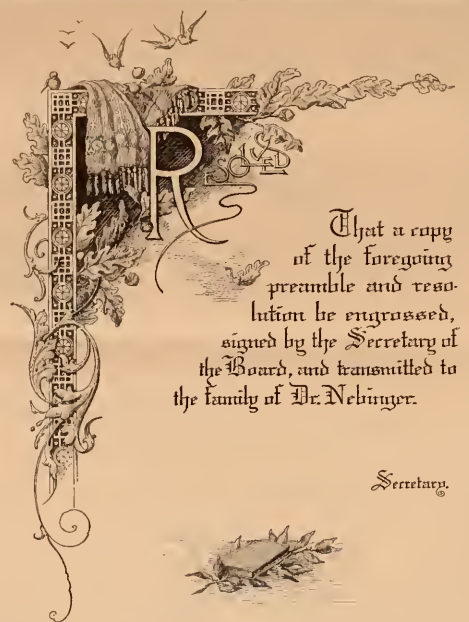
Here, then, we have a splendid subject for contemplation and research in natural philosophy or physics, the science of dead matter. The sun, a mere piece of matter of the moderate dimensions which we know it to have, bounded all round by cold ether, has been doing work at the rate of four hundred and seventy-six thousand million, million, million horse-power for three thousand years and at possibly more, and certainly not much less, than that for a few million years. How is this to be explained? Natural philosophy can not evade the question, and no physicist who is not engaged in trying to answer it can have any other justification than that his whole working time is occupied with work on some other subject or subjects of his province by which he has more hope of being able to advance science.—From "The Sun's Heat," by Sir William Thomson, in *Popular Science Monthly*.

Electric Swords.

One of the most interesting features of modern progress is the influence on modes of warfare exercised by scientific discoveries. The bicycle has been utilized in Germany for mounting troops, and now we hear of an electric sword. It will be seen that the latter is an essentially shocking weapon. Strangely enough, it was invented in Shanghai. The warrior using such a sword has a battery—that is, of course, an electric battery—concealed at his waist. Insulated wires run from the battery to the sword. When the point of the weapon touches an adversary the latter is paralyzed. The wielder of the sword can be said to have made an electric charge.

There is much that is luxurious and pleasing in the possibilities suggested by the Shanghai sword. In the first place the victims to the weapons are not hewn down in a bloody death. They perish neatly and quickly and do not soil the ground with gore. Of course, such scientific execution would take away much that poetical about a battle-field. No longer could the romancers revel in such phrases as "rivers of blood" and "a pool of death." In fact, the electric sword would offer little more than an electric brush or an electric comb as a subject for imaginative writers. But it appeals at once to the lovers of the practical. If a warfare is really a necessary adjunct of human existence let us keep it as strictly abreast of the times as possible.

The electric sword is a great advance on the weapon which has for so many centuries sprung from its scabbard to seek men's vitals. It has one great drawback, however, which may retard its popularity. It is apt to prove fatal. Imagine a French duel fought with electric swords. Some one would surely be hurt, and French politeness would be greatly outraged. On the whole, it seems probable that the Shanghai weapon will not be received with favor in Europe. The great armed nations of the continent would feel reluctant to place lightning-rods on their troops, and unless some such precaution was taken the electric sword would be invincible.



Example of Artistic Pen-Work-Piece of Engrossed Album Photo-Engraved from Pen and Ink Copy Executed in the Office of the Journal.

Choosing Wall-Paper.

In choosing wall-paper, great care should be exercised, as the color and general appearance of most of the patterns change very greatly under dust or daylight. It is, therefore, desirable to select three or four patterns, put them up upon the walls of the room and examine their general effects carefully by day and night before making a final choice, for not only do some patterns and colors materially alter by artificial light, but some, especially green and blue, absorb an immense amount of light, and are therefore not fitted for any rooms which are to be economically lighted. In papering the walls of a dining-room there are, of course, very many ways of treatment, and among the numerous good examples of paper-hanging now made, there should be no difficulty in selecting some really good patterns, artistic in design and coloring. As before stated, a dado or wainscot finish a desirable base for a dining room, a wide frieze a proper finish to the wall, instead of carrying up the general tone of color of the wall to the ceiling or cornice, thus suggests itself as infinitely more artistic than carrying up the same color or decoration to the top of the room,

off by a person in health is about two pounds, or two pints, daily—a quantity almost equal to that disposed of by the kidneys. It contains, in common with the other excretions, substances which, if retained, are harmful to the system. Also, the matter deposited in the clothing in the course of a week, and in warm weather especially, beginning speedily to decompose, is enough to suggest the eminent propriety of frequent changes, and washings and airings often. Sick lungs, liver or kidneys call upon the skin to do their work for them. The skin must, therefore, be kept in good condition to do the work of three organs as well as its own, and, being so ready, may save a threatened life. The skin may be trained to adapt itself to sudden and frequent changes. It has the same capacity for adapting itself to circumstances that the eye has. It will shrink and give off little heat through its blood vessels and its sweat glands when exposed to cold, and will present a large radiating surface and much moisture when exposed to heat. A judicious training will enable the skin to adapt itself to sudden changes with safety.—Lecture by Dr. Sheldon.

don an illegible scroll on the ground of speed? Many of our enthusiastic worshippers at the shrine of "movement" would be well to note the fact that celerity of action, whether of mind, body or limbs, is a natural and inherited gift, and that a person constitutionally slow of mind or motion cannot vie with one who is constitutionally quick, nor can any amount of training avail to bring equality, for training advances him who is already quick in the same degree that it does be that is slow.

Celerity of mind is attended with exactly a corresponding degree of celerity of physical action, hence a slow person can no more write rapidly than he could run or think rapidly.

It follows, then, as a fact that movement in writing is relative. Drill may help a slow pupil to move faster, as it does the quick one, but the slow one remains relatively slow, hence the absurdity of teachers setting a numerical standard of motion, that is, a given number of strokes per minute for a miscellaneous class of pupils. It is true he

extreme advocates of movement are being run out of the true race on a hobby. Movement must follow, not precede form. Action of fingers must follow action of mind. By this we do not mean that a pupil is to go through the whole process of mastering form before practicing movement, but that forms are to be studied and letters analyzed and some ideal established in the mind of the pupil before he is pushed to an extreme of speed. If it is to be better form and less speed, or better speed and less form, we choose the former.

Editorial Comment.

OUR WINGED messenger on the accompanying page bears THE JOURNAL'S best wishes of Joy, Peace, Prosperity to each individual member of its big household. And it seems entirely appropos that a flourishing messenger should convey greetings to a flourishing constituency.

It was a very rash undertaking—sound

illustrations. The Penman seems to be having due prosperity and to be enjoying itself generally. Editor Scarborough continues to make things interesting in *Weekend Magazine*. Editor Scarborough does not propose to have any dyspeptic correspondents treading on his toes, as may be seen by reference to his last number. These dyspeptic correspondents, by the way, have a most unenviable manner of hobnobbing up when least expected, and they are the hardest persons in the world to slay down on, side communication elsewhere in this issue.

THE KING CLUB comes this month from C. A. French, of Boston, and numbers forty-four subscribers. Mr. French is one of THE JOURNAL'S most appreciative friends, a month rarely passing without his contributing a number of new subscribers to its lists. That is the kind of friends upon which good papers are built. W. C. Isbell, Terre Haute, Ind., sends the *Queca Club*, numbering thirty-six, with W. S. Chamberlain, Wilkesbarre, Pa., only a nose behind

claims were true. We are very sorry to be compelled to show up R. B. Pickens in the unenviable light of a forger and a fraud. The facts, however, seem to warrant it, and our correspondents and to the profession justify this strong language, as applied to one who seeks to impose on them in this gross manner. If the young man has anything to say in his defence we will give him the opportunity.

Pen and Paper.

Various Traits of the Human Character Revealed by Handwriting.

Handwriting is as much an expression of character as dress or speech.

The cut, the color and the arrangement of the dress indicate the position, taste and inclination of the wearer; the tone of voice, the pronunciation and the thought expressed in speech is a complete index to the individual who holds your attention, and not less certainly does the color of ink, the shape and quality of paper and the fashioning of characters in a written communication tell the story of the personality of the inditer.

To be sure, we are governed or fashioned in each by certain arbitrary rules peculiar to the time and place, but it is in the adaptation of these mandates that the individual crops out.

At one time no dress was complete without a tail, and it was in its management that a woman's grace or awkwardness was apparent.

It was the individual surviving under herculean difficulties that led a certain young man to be spoken of lately as "a sensible, respectable fellow."

The soft tones and smooth, grammatical sentences of educated persons are noticeable even when marred by the drawing tones aesthetic culture gives or the twang the Yankee atmosphere imparts.

Thus does an unobtrusive color of ink, heavy, plain paper and gentleness of the sheet indicate the lady or gentleman, notwithstanding the style of handwriting in vogue.

Fifty years ago the very delicate, very regular, very slanting characters of the Italian style of handwriting was in use. This, while lacking in character, possessed the one recommendation of legibility.

Then came in the English style, very square, very imposing, stately as Britannia herself, but wholly illegible.

At this time we have in use generally a happy combination of both, and perhaps at no former time has more importance been attached to letter writing than at present.

Business men consider it a most essential dignity to maintain, and their busidnessly engraved letter-heads and carefully dictated and neat type-written mail are carefully considered indications of their business standing.

It was formerly believed that illegibility and haste indicated enterprise and promptness; but, while they do not entirely abrogate money saving and time saving, they now consider heavy saving as well.

To letter writing it is demonstrated that it is profitable to combine usefulness and legibility.

Ladies of leisure can have no excuse for such an omission, which in their would be at once unalloyable and discourteous.

They are aided in this work by the perfect pens, perfect paper and perfect ink of the day.

These pens are most generally used in preference to the more expensive gold ones, at one time considered indispensable.

The variety and excellence of paper is unlimited for ladies' use, but the heavy, cream-colored, moderate sized sheet, unruled, is considered in most elegant taste.

The use of water-colors is strongly recommended by the address of the writer, the street and number, or, if suburban, the name, as "Rosebud Villa," in plain, handsome engraving. We learn that Mrs. Cleveland uses stationery adorned with her monogram in her delicate blue and the motto, "Where bees are there is honey," and perhaps this will lead to innovations.

The use of water-colors, very recently introduced, met with a hearty reception at first, but lately we see but little of its use. The convenient self-sealing envelopes, for which wax seals are superfluous, are too neat and expeditious to be immediately superseded.

A Happy New Year to
THE JOURNAL
that genuine radiator of light and
knowledge over the pen-world!
May it enjoy the bright smiles
of many New Years to come and be
guaranteed to us rich legacies of old.
Gratiously,
Fielding Schofield.
Quincy, Illinois,
December 1897

Photo-Engraved from Copy Executed by Fielding Schofield, Quincy, Ill.

may produce an apparent equality in the practice by holding back the fast and spurting up the slow to a common medium, but in this the one suffers from contraction and the other from extension. Again, many pupils from circumstances beyond their control, have but a brief period of schooling, insufficient to acquire both legibility and speed. In our business colleges, where most of the pupils have already enjoyed the advantages of a common school, and often high school education, and who now have the assistance of skilled professional teachers of writing, it becomes proper that special, and sometimes exclusive, attention be given to movement, but it should be borne in mind that the vast majority of those who learn to write do so in the public schools of rural towns, where the employment of a strictly professional teacher of writing is utterly out of the question, and whose occupation calls for a very limited practice in writing; to such legibility is of paramount importance. We have ever been an earnest advocate of free movement in writing, and shall ever continue to be such, but in view of the fact that it is chiefly to the specialist in writing, either as a clerk, accountant or correspondent, in the agency of business, who requires to write with extreme rapidity, while to the vast majority of writers speed is of very little consideration compared with legibility, we repeat, first legibility, then speed.

We can but believe that many of the

ing penmanship opinion on penmanship superiority, and candor compels us to say that it wasn't successful. So many penmen who received our summons began to be excused (mostly on grounds of delicacy) that we feel constrained to extend the indulgence to the few who were moved to answer.

When the Greek allies had scattered and destroyed the great Persian fleet in the battle of Salamis, all Athens put on the garb of jubilation and came out to greet the proud victors. In order to bestow the glory in due proportion upon the various Greek commanders, each of them was requested to make a list of those who took part in the fighting, giving the names precedence according to respective merits. Brave men and true, each list-maker put his own name at the head, excepting Themistocles, whose name was second on all the lists save his own. That, however, was several years ago, and has nothing at all to do with the case in point, except to illustrate the perils of list making.

THE OFFER of The Office and The Journal for \$1 a year is confined to new subscribers. Renewals cannot be received on that basis.

THE CURRENT NUMBER of The Western Penman is the best we have seen in a long time. It is extremely creditable in point of

with thirty-four. Each of these gentlemen knows a good thing when he sees it, and has enough consideration for his friends to let them into the secret. H. C. Spencer, of the Spencerian Business College, Washington, D. C., sends a club of thirty subscribers, and J. W. Wellor, Grand Rapids, Mich., twenty-five. Clubs of seventeen come from E. L. Burnett, Snowball's B. & S. Business College, Providence, R. I., and James W. Yerex, La Grange, N. C. C. F. Elliott, Streator, Ill., sends fourteen subscribers; J. B. Moore, N. W. Business College, Stanberry, Mo., thirteen; Jacob Bos, Aurora, Ill., ten; E. E. Rondebusch, Topoka, Kan., Business College, sine, with various clubs of eight and less.

IN ITS ISSUE of November last, on page 133, THE JOURNAL printed a bird-fourish purporting to have been executed by R. B. Pickens, of Mooreville, Tenn. The copy was received from Mr. Pickens' blind-off. After the fourish had been put in print we received a letter from Mr. C. N. Crandle, Dixon, Ill., claiming the authorship of the production in question, and alleging that it had been stolen by Mr. Pickens from his scrap-book, and palmed off for his own work. Mr. Crandle has had an opportunity to examine the original from which the cut was made and positively identifies it as his own work. Before copying the original, however, he described the copy in such a way as to satisfy us entirely that his

Quantity—Quality.

A Vigorous Onslaught on the Practice of "Speed Writing."

BY MARCUS H. FOX.

A word or two in reference to a general misapprehension existing amongst our self-styled professors of penmanship, concerning the rate of speed and the necessary amount of strokes or letters to be made per minute, I think will not be amiss.

teaching of speed in penmanship is evident, as that is not the goal to be attained, but perfection.

It may be argued that perfection is the most difficult and the least attainable, as results have shown. Nevertheless, if perfection be so difficult to attain, let it at least be the goal towards which we should aim. Then if the sought-for result be attained, so much the greater will be our satisfaction in having accomplished that for which we strove. If perfection in form and move-

be understood that I am in favor of a legitimate or limited use of speed, a speed which has for its object the attainment of good movement and steadiness of stroke; but not a speed which has for its object quantity.

Speed in penmanship should be regulated accordingly; i. e., limited to a certain pace suited to the person writing, as the rate of speed must necessarily differ with different individuals. The powers of endurance in individuals are greater or lesser in their re-

Instruction in Pen-Work.

BY H. W. KIBBE.

4.

At this point in the course we will give a few lessons in rapid writing, practical for business purposes, and commence to this number with a lesson on movement.

The first hand is the act of starting an inverted oval exercise, and the second one has completed the left curve to the top. Notice that the position of the fingers and hand is the same to the second as to the first drawing, and that the line has been made by pushing the arm forward and out of the sleeve, sliding on the nails and sides of the third and fourth fingers folded under the hand. The right curve or downward stroke to complete the oval is made by drawing the arm back into the sleeve, not allowing the slightest movement in the joints of the thumb and fingers, and being sure that the sleeve does not slide on the table. This is the forearm movement and the movement with which all these exercises were made. In stems and loops a slight movement in the thumb and finger joints may be used at the same time that the arm is being pushed forward or drawn back into the sleeve, which is the combined movement. This movement of the fingers must not retard the free movement of the arm.

Make the exercises on unruled paper, using no guide excepting the edge of a which on which the hand slides. The reason for asking you to write without lines is that nothing may take the attention from the movement. These instructions you will understand are for learners. When the movement is mastered then all exercises should be made to a base-line, and great care should be taken to follow it. In making the connecting line as I've usually left the pen from the paper about half a space from the top. Give each of these exercises all the practice you can between this and the next lesson. Do not slight one of them. They are all worthy of your attention.

Lessons on Movement Exercises.

BY E. K. ISAACS.

II.

In the last lesson I gave a series of light oval exercises. This lesson is devoted to shaded exercises. Each of these two kinds of exercises is valuable to the learner, the light to develop an easy, delicate touch, the shaded to develop strength and confidence. The learner must not get tired of these exercises, for they are the mainstays of good business penmanship. The arrows indicate the direction of the motion. These exercises should be practiced with a rapid, vigorous muscular movement. From 150 to 200 ovals per minute is the proper speed.

The Office.

Our neighbor, *The Office*, wise beyond its day and generation, has become the official exponent of Mr. Sprague's universal language, yclept "Volapük," designed to afford ready and philosophic means of communication between educated people of all nations. A "Hand Book of Volapük" has just come from *The Office* press. It is a feast to the eye, and the publisher is able to offer the meaning and uses of the new language, with a grammatical exposition of its structure. The price of the work is \$1. *The Office* stays right up to high water mark, and we are more than pleased to quote the abundant evidences of its prosperity. The price of the paper is \$1 a year. By special arrangement with the publisher, we are able to offer for a limited time to every new subscriber to *THE JOURNAL*, both *The Office* and *THE JOURNAL* one year for the subscription price to either publication—\$1, or to any one renewing their subscription and remitting \$1.50 we will include *The Office* for one year.

This is worth your consideration.

Movement Exercises.—Photo-Engraved from Copy Executed by H. W. Kibbe, and Presented in Connection with his Accompanying Lesson.



The question before us, which to my mind seems to be one of great importance, especially to pupils, involves a grave and significant fact, that in penmanship only, such great stress seems to be placed on the term quantity.

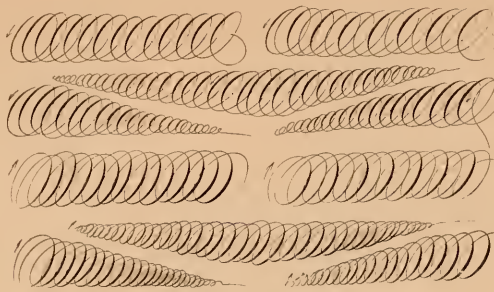
The "Professor" proceeds in his course of instruction to impart to his pupils the necessary importance of movement, by dashing off from his skilled and practiced pen a lot of strokes, letters or combinations with a surprising degree of grace and ease, to the amazement of his disciples.

meet combined, be so difficult to attain, why sacrifice form by advocating speed to attain movement?

Grace, delicacy and harmony, so indescribable, and yet so manifest. Are these three sterling qualities compatible and in unison with the speed method?

A few comparisons to show the preposterousness of the speed advocacy I believe will strengthen my argument. Imagine a Meissner turning out so many yards of canvas in so many minutes; an engraver endeavoring to make so many lines or stip-

spective actions, and a strain to be placed on any of the powers must be regulated according to the endurance of the powers to be used. But does the professor who places a copy before his pupils and requires a certain rate of speed for their execution, look or know who his pupils are? The pupil may be a grown man, a young lady, a boy, or even a child; is it not ridiculous to ask the same rate of speed from all? Shouldn't the professor make allowances as to whom he has for a pupil and whether the pupil be experienced or still a novice?



Movement Exercises.—Photo-Engraved from Copy Executed by E. K. Isaacs, and Presented in Connection with his Accompanying Lesson.

The copies being completed, he ("Professor") next orders his pupils to practice with the admonition that 60, 70, 80, 100 or 200 per minute are necessary; for, should he fail to grind out the required number of strokes in the allotted time, he fails in attaining the required result in that lesson, because he was told to turn out so many strokes in so many minutes.

Note the inconsistency in this method of teaching, for what is the pupil practicing to attain? Is it a high rate of locomotive speed to attain quantity, or is it to attain a high degree of perfection in quality, irrespective of speed, which as a factor in execution cannot be governed with any regularity, as speed in writing is no unknown and indeterminate quantity depending mainly on the person writing; whereas, quality in writing is a known quantity, that being perfection. Therefore the absurdity of the

copies per minute; the crayon-artist trying to plev with his stump so much paper per minute; the designer originating so many ideas per minute; or a Longfellow so many feet of verse per minute. Do any of the above-named vocations derive any of their beauty through speed? If not, why place such great stress in requiring a certain quantity of work to be executed in a certain length of time, when quantity is not the result sought.

Throughout this discussion I have used the term speed for quantity, speed being the main factor in producing quantity; and the term perfection for quality, perfection being the highest degree of quality attainable. I wish not to be misunderstood as advocating the finger movement, as the constant practice of the same is bound to result in a slow, cramped and drawn-like mode of chirography; but, I do wish it to

The absurdity in the lessons illustrated by photo-engraved copies with printed instructions as taught by some of our professors through the different penmanship journals, is clearly at its height, when they ask all the readers to practice the lesson illustrated, and to use a certain rate of speed prescribed by the professor in his printed instructions. The professor seems to forget or to disregard the fact that his illustrated lesson comes before thousands of people both young and old, experienced and inexperienced, and some more or less his peers with the pen. Can any teacher whose sanity is unquestionable ask the same rate of speed from the thousands of different persons who have more or less muscular development, more or less endurance, more or less experience, or more or less aptness? Would it not be better for the professor to place before his pupils his best copies, and ask from his pupils the best work irrespective of quantity?

A Discovery.

The dear little liddle "his tiny hands were chapped and red with cold. But they tightly clasp a piece of ice. Almost too big to hold."

Far down in the depths of its crystal heart A tiny flaw was seen, Where, shivering colors started up, Scarlet, and gold, and green.

How his blue eyes shone, and his eager face With joy was all aglow: "Oh, mamma," he cried, "just see! I've found A piece of frozen rainbow."
—*Lizzie M. Bailey, in Christmas Wide Awake.*

In Reference to Handwriting.

The questioning of experts on handwriting by lawyers was one of the interesting incidents in the Circuit Court one day this week. Some of the questions asked and answered were: "Whether a man's writing is a reflex of his nervous condition?"

"Whether a drunken man writes his signature different than when sober?" "Whether it makes a difference if the writer has an overcoat on?" One of the witnesses said that a man's signature had a certain expression, and like a man's face could be recognized whether drunk or sober, and that a man's face is not judged by any single feature, his nose or the color of his eyes, but in taken as a whole.—*Kingston, N. Y., Daily Freeman.*

Complimentary Closing.

Interesting Statistics of the Forms of Ending Letters.

I examined three hundred of my old letters, a hundred and fifty purely business letters, and an equal number of a mixed linear nature from friends and acquaintances, none from relatives, and all from different persons. Here are the statistics:

	<i>Bus. Mss.</i>	<i>Priv. Mss.</i>
Yours Truly	51	34
Very Truly To you	17	12
Yours Very Truly	10	10
Yours	5	10
Very Respectfully	11	3
Yours, etc.	3	10
Yours Respectfully	10	2
Very Truly	8	4
Respectfully	8	2
Sincerely Yours	1	7
Yours Sincerely	1	7
Your Prices	0	6
Respectfully Yours	4	2
Very Sincerely Yours	2	2
Truly Yours	2	2
Sincerely	1	3
Yours Faithfully	3	0
In haste	0	3
Hastily	0	2
Truly	0	2
Yours Fraternality	0	2
Yours cordially	0	1
Very Sincerely	0	2
With sincere regards	0	2
Your Obedient Servant	2	0
Yours Most Truly	1	1
Very Respectfully Yours	1	1
At Your Service	1	0
And Obedient	1	0
Very Truly Always	1	0
Yours Very Respectfully	1	0
Yours as Ever	0	1
Yours Ever	0	1
Fraternality	0	1
Fraternality Yours	0	1
Yours Most Truly	0	1
Truly, etc.	0	1
Most Truly	0	1
Yours Truly	0	1

One notable feature of this table is the scarcity of the signatures so well-nigh universal a century ago, such as "Your Obedient Servant," of which I found but two instances in three hundred letters. "Your Humble Servant" seemed to have departed this life. Can this be due to the disastrous Auerkers have for even the semblance of servility?

"Yours Truly," trite, commonplace, as devoid of meaning as two words can be, yet holds the lead in favor, to an extent not to be wondered at in business letters, but somewhat surprising in letters of friendship. "Very Respectfully" and "Yours Respectfully" are suitable when the person to receive the letter is much older than the sender or by reason of his position deserves some marked expression of deference, but the phrases are too often used without regard to their significance.

"Yours, etc.," seems a half-hearted, hazy sort of signature, a *placard* he would mean as much and be easier to make. It is not even the slight merit of "In haste" or "Hastily," which at least serve as an apol-

ogy for bad writing. As far as simplicity goes, "Yours" is infinitely preferable, and, indeed, is the best way to say something without meaning anything—best because the shorter the useless formula the better.—*Robert Luce in The Writer.*

Mistakes at the Post Office.

Curious Prescriptions—Absent-Mindedness and Carelessness.

"It would probably astonish you," remarked a clerk in the granite building on Devonshire Street, to a reporter, "to see the large number and kind of mistakes made by the public when doing business with the post office. Every evening letters misdirected or without postage stamps at-

ting the day stopped. It could not be done, I told her, because the mail for the place she mentioned had closed and was gone. It seems that she had recently married, without her parrot's knowledge, and during the absence of her husband from town on business had written him a letter, and also one to her paternal parent. She placed them in envelopes, sealed and posted them. The same day, some hours after, she thought that she had placed her husband's letter in her father's envelope, and *vice versa*, hence the tears. It is not an unusual thing for a man to throw in a check book or some valuable papers with his letters, and does not discover his loss for some time. It is interesting to observe the perplexed and anxious look upon his face as he makes in-

It is hard to tell whether or not they will be a success. If they contain money or anything valuable they can be easily opened at the sides by a dishonest clerk and the contents extracted without apparently injuring the cover. The only advantage they have over a postal card is the contents are not known to everybody who handles them."

"How is the special delivery business at this office in number of letters delivered?" was propounded by the reporter.

"Since the introduction of that system it has shown a steady falling off, but it will probably boom up on October 1st next, when all kinds of matter, if the usual stamp is affixed, will come under the rule. At present only first-class mail matter is delivered by special delivery."

THE JOURNAL'S AUTOGRAPH ALBUM.

The copy for this cut was written with the compound movement by
H. Spencer
Washington, D.C.

Chicago, Nov. 1, 1887
This cut was photo-engraved from writing executed with a combined movement by
J. M. Concors

This cut is photo-engraved from writing executed with the Combined Movement by
Albany Business College
Albany, N.Y.
B. B. Spencer

tached are thrown through the offices in the panels. It seems that when some persons enters the post office they are bewildered, and suffer a partial eclipse of their senses, and do things that they would not do in other places. Letters innumerable, from some of the largest business houses in this city, are received here without the necessary postage affixed. This shows the mistake is to be attributed to carelessness, not to ignorance."

"What is done with such letters?" queried the reporter.

"The senders, if their card is printed or written on the letters, are notified; otherwise the matter is sent to the dead letter office at Washington to be disposed of there."

"I have no doubt you witness many incidents humorous as well as pathetic, do you not?" observed the reporter.

"Yes, the post office is a great place to study human nature; you come in contact with all sorts of characters. Only the other evening a young woman, crying piteously, approached the window, and in answer to an interrogatory as to the nature of her business, replied that she would like to have two letters that she had posted dur-

quires for his lost property, and the relieved and pleased expression that succeeds it as he gains possession of the lost article.

"Then," resumed the speaker, after a short pause, "there are some persons who neatly and firmly place a stamp upon a letter and then throw it in, utterly devoid of direction. The great army of phonetic spellers come to the front and create havoc with such names as Philadelphia, Jamaica Plain, etc., and make of the poetical Indian names something terrible and hardly recognizable. Fertile imagination has a grand field to operate upon when superscribing the address. Some directions are gotten up in the form of rhymes and enigmas. Ninth Street is sometimes called street of the hector fluid, wife's Cross, Temple, Franklin and other streets are easily represented."

"How does the new envelope, the flap-covered postal card, or whatever it is seem to take with the public," asked the reporter.

"It is too early yet to say whether they will be successful or not. The majority of the uses of this interest idea show a lamentable ignorance in folding it. They are folded in shapes never designed by the inventor.

The reporter was shown a collection of curious addresses copied by this clerk into a book. Some were very remarkable. One was addressed like the following:

BOOTS AND SHOES REPAIRED.
HEELED, 25c.; SOLED, 75c.
Dover Street, Boston, Mass.

This letter was delivered to a shoemaker on Dover Street who had over his shop door a sign with the above legend upon it.

—The great pyramid has 85,000,000 cubic feet, the great wall of China 6,350,000 cubic feet. An engineer in Seward's party there some years ago gave it as his opinion that the cost of this wall, figuring labor at the same rate, would more than equal that of all the 100,000 miles of railroad in the United States.

—The public land is not all gone yet. There are still 9,000,000 acres in Colorado, 12,000,000 in Arizona, 30,000,000 in California, 49,000,000 in Dakota, 7,000,000 in Florida, 44,000,000 in Idaho, 7,000,000 in Minnesota, 11,000,000 in Utah, 20,000,000 in Washington, and millions of acres in other States and Territories, while Alaska has fertile fields that have hardly been touched.

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